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Illinois Department of Human Services

Partners for HOPE

Interfaith Welfare to Work Initiative

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DHS Interfaith Welfare to Work Initiative

What is Partners for Hope?

Partners for Hope is a partnership between faith communities and the Illinois Department of Human Services to provide Wrap-Around Ministries that improve and enhance DHS' services to families.

DHS provides many of the supports that help people obtain and keep jobs, but sometimes other services are needed. Partners for Hope will work to help fill in those service gaps with programs originating in area churches, synagogues, mosques and other faith communities.

What is the purpose?

The ultimate goal is to help families become self-sufficient and more firmly connect them to a sustaining community that offers lasting hope.

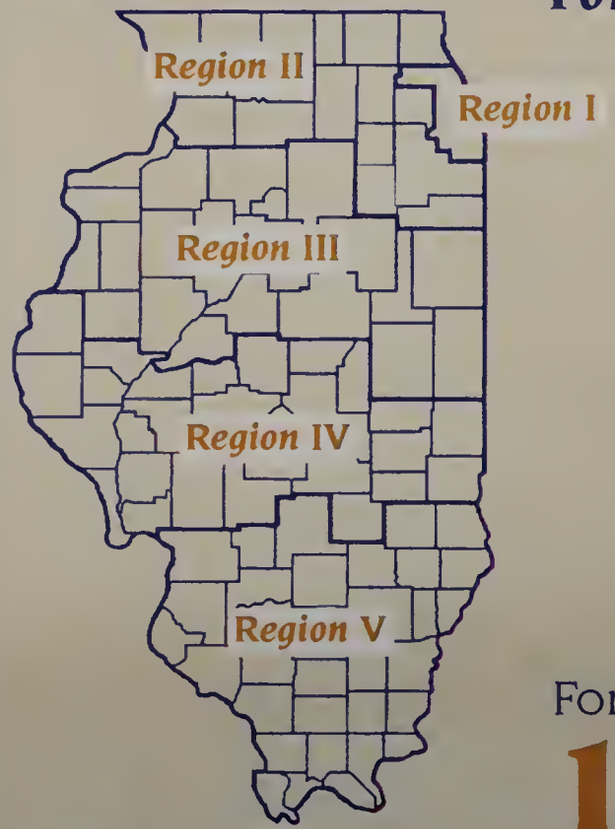
Wrap-Around Ministry

What is a Wrap-Around Ministry?

A Wrap-Around Ministry is designed to help families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) who are members of a church, synagogue, mosque or other faith community. It entails a faith community using its available resources to help members of its congregation, in partnership with the Illinois Department of Human Services.

A Wrap-Around Ministry involves...

- Faith communities helping TANF families move from welfare to work
- Faith communities helping TANF families maintain self-sufficiency
- Faith communities helping TANF families manage their resources



For Programs In Your Area, Call:

Region I - Arlene Swift - 312/793-1398 (V) 312/793-2354 (TTY)
401 South Clinton, 2nd floor, Chicago, Illinois 60607

Region II - Michael Rotello - 815/987-7702 (V) 815/987-7226 (TTY)
1111 1/4 North Avon Street, Rockford, Illinois 61101

Region III - Carol Lowe - 309/671-4966
1115B N. North Street, Peoria, Illinois 61606

Region IV - Dan Mount - 217/524-6321 (V) 217/524-6334 (TTY)
425 South Fourth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701

Region V - Charles Blades - 618/997-2388
102 East De Young, Marion, Illinois 62959

For more information, contact the DHS automated information service line:

1-800-843-6154 or 1-800-447-6404 (TTY)

Wrap-Around Ministry programs being offered across Illinois...

Employment and Training Ministries

Mentors ■ Life-skills training ■ Resume writing ■ Financial management ■ Transportation

Youth Intervention Programs

Drug abuse and gang violence intervention ■ Summer school ■ Vacation Bible school ■ Domestic violence ministry

Housing Assistance

Mortgage assistance ■ Rental security deposits ■ Relocation

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Child Care

Back-up child care ■ 24-hour child care ■ Emergency child care

Alternative Sentencing Advocacy

Advocacy on behalf of non-violent offenders ■ Ministry to expunge petty arrests ■ Work with courts to provide alternative sentencing

...and many more programs.

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DHS Mission

To assist Illinois residents to achieve self-sufficiency, independence and health to the maximum extent possible by providing integrated family-oriented services, promoting prevention and establishing measurable outcomes in partnership with communities.

Illinois Department of Human Services

Programs, activities and employment opportunities in the Illinois Department of Human Services are open and accessible to any individual or group without regard to age, sex, race, sexual orientation, disability, ethnic origin or religion. The department is an equal opportunity employer and practices affirmative action and reasonable accommodation programs.

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